

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A bicycle damper, comprising:
  - a first tube defining a longitudinal first axis;
  - a piston rod supporting a piston in sealed, sliding engagement with said first tube, said piston and said first tube defining a first fluid chamber;
  - a second tube defining a longitudinal second axis, said second axis being non-parallel with respect to said first axis when said piston rod and said first and second tubes are operably mounted to an associated bicycle, said second tube defining a second fluid chamber:
  - a fluid passage connecting said first fluid chamber and said second fluid chamber, wherein a damping fluid moves between said first fluid chamber and said second fluid chamber in response to relative movement of said piston rod and said first tube;
  - an inertia valve comprising an inertia mass movable between a first position and a second position, wherein said inertia mass blocks a flow of fluid through said fluid passage in said first position and permits a flow of fluid through said fluid passage in said second position.
2. The damper of Claim 1, wherein said inertia mass moves along said second axis from said first position to said second position.
3. The damper of Claim 1, wherein said inertia mass is within said second tube.
4. The damper of Claim 3, wherein said inertia mass is not within said first tube.
5. The damper of Claim 1, wherein said first tube and said second tube are coupled into a single unit by a connector, a portion of said fluid passage being within said connector.
6. A bicycle damper, comprising:
  - a first tube defining a first axis, said first tube configured to be coupled to one of a frame and a wheel support of an associated bicycle;
  - a piston rod supporting a piston in sealed, sliding engagement with said first tube, said piston and said first tube defining a first fluid chamber, said piston rod

configured to be coupled to the other of the frame and wheel support of an associated bicycle;

a second tube defining a second axis, said second tube configured to be coupled to the wheel support of an associated bicycle such that said second axis is non-parallel with respect to said first axis, said second tube defining a second fluid chamber:

a fluid passage connecting said first fluid chamber and said second fluid chamber, wherein a damping fluid moves between said first fluid chamber and said second fluid chamber in response to relative movement of said piston rod and said first tube;

an inertia valve movable between a first position and a second position, wherein said a flow of fluid is prevented through said fluid passage in said first position of said inertia valve and a flow of fluid through said fluid passage is permitted in said second position of said inertia valve, and wherein said inertia valve is configured to move from said first position to said second position in response to a terrain-induced force above a predetermined threshold applied to said wheel support along said second axis.

7. The damper of Claim 6, wherein said inertia valve moves along said second axis from said first position to said second position.

8. The damper of Claim 6, wherein said inertia valve is within said second tube.

9. The damper of Claim 8, wherein said inertia valve is not within said first tube.

10. The damper of Claim 6, wherein said first tube and said second tube are coupled into a single unit by a connector, a portion of said fluid passage being within said connector.